

Acropolis	A fortress within a large city, usually on top of a hill. The Acropolis in Athens is the most famous one.
Agora	A meeting place in the centre of Ancient Greek cities.
Athens	A powerful Greek city-state and where Democracy was born.
City state	A city along with surrounding areas that rules independently (Athens and Sparta are two examples).
Civilisation	The stage of human social and cultural development and organisation that is considered most advanced.
Culture	The ideas, customs/habits, and public behaviour of a particular people or society.
Oligarchy	A type of government where a few people hold power.
Olympics	A sporting event held by the Ancient Greeks every four years.
Sparta	A powerful Greek city-state and rival to Athens, Sparta's culture was based around warfare and battle.
Stadion	The original Olympic event, the stadion was a running race the length of the stadium.
Titans	The Titans were the first Greek gods. Their children, the Olympians, overthrew them.
Trade	This is the buying and selling of goods.
Tyrant	The ruler of a Greek city-state, a tyrant was like a king. Today the word tyrant is used to describe a ruler who rules unfairly or unjustly.

Who were the Ancient Greeks?

- The Ancient Greeks lived in Greece in the countries we now call Bulgaria and Turkey, over 4000 years ago.
- The two most important cities in Ancient Greece were Athens and Sparta.
- City states (polis) were created and trade happened between each of the cities.
- Greece is a warm country, but winds from the Mediterranean, and rains from the north, kept temperatures liveable and created fertile farming conditions.
- Greece is made up of the mainland and many islands.
- Its position by the sea meant that the Greeks were a seafaring people.



Impact on our lives today



Knowledge Item 1- Democracy began in Ancient Greece. demos= people
kratos= rule

Greek Gods

- Athena** - A goddess famous for her wisdom. She was always dressed in armour. Athens is named after her.
- Poseidon** - Like the sea he ruled, Poseidon could be either calm or stormy. As you might guess, the god of earthquakes had a short temper. He did not get along with other gods. He did not always get along with mortals, either.
- Hermes** - Hermes was the messenger god. He was young and intelligent-looking. He wore a winged hat and winged sandals, and he carried a magic wand. (We know what he looked like because so many sculptors made statues of him).
- Zeus** - Zeus was the king of the gods. He and his brothers Hades and Poseidon were in charge of the whole universe. Hades ruled the Underworld, the world of the dead. Poseidon ruled the seas. Zeus, the greatest of the three, ruled the earth and the sky. He controlled the weather, causing wind and rain. He also caused thunder and lightning. He threw his thunderbolt like a spear.
- Aphrodite** - She was the goddess of love.
- Hera** - She was the Queen of the Gods and married to Zeus.



Zeus



Poseidon



Athena

Timeline of events

776BC	The First Olympics takes place.
621BC	A lawyer named Draco introduces strict new laws in Athens that are punishable by death. These are called Draconian laws.
600BC	The First Greek coins are introduced.
508BC	Democracy is introduced in Athens. Leading to a Golden era, up to
323BC-490BC	Battle of Marathon, when Athens defeated the Persian forces of King Darius I.
468BC	The theatre becomes a very popular form of entertainment.
432BC	The Parthenon is built.
431BC 404BC	The Peloponnesian war, in which Sparta eventually defeated Athens.
386BC	The famous philosopher Socrates is put to death for corrupting the young people with his teachings.
323BC	The Ancient Greeks begin to lose power and the Ancient Romans start to gain power.
146BC	Rome conquers Greece making it part of the Roman Empire.



A Spartan soldier



coin



Mount Olympus



the Greek alphabet were 'alpha' and 'beta', which is where we get the word 'alphabet'



Knowledge Item 2- Ancient Greek myths are still read today. Monsters include Medusa and the Minotaur. Heroes include Odysseus and Perseus.

Knowledge Item 3- Greek architecture has influenced the design of buildings all over the world. The British Museum (London) is an example of this.

Knowledge Item 4- The Greek alphabet and language influenced us too. Our alphabet was developed using some of the alphabet that the Ancient Greeks used. In fact, the first two letters in

Knowledge Item 5- The Olympics started in Ancient Greece.



Olympics



The acropolis

Key People



Alexander the Great was the king of Macedonia or Ancient Greece. He is considered one of the greatest military commanders in history. He conquered much of Asia and Europe

Aristotle is the earliest natural historian whose work has survived in some detail. He made many of the first observations of the plant and animal kingdoms

Plato thought about and discussed what makes people human and what human nature is. Plato believed that men and women had the same intellectual powers.



Many ancient Greeks considered **Socrates** to be a very wise man. He did not want to answer questions on the universe like all the other philosophers have done previously he wanted to question things like "what is friendship" or "what is courage". He had a very inquiring mind, which unfortunately resulted in his death. Alexander Socrates the Great

Project for Home Learning

Choose an aspect of Ancient Greece to find out more about. You can make :

- A 3D model of the Gods
- A leaflet
- A poster
- Create maps
- Fact file